

reside; that the Navajos are entitled to commendation for their progressiveness in the sheep industry, and as they can not maintain sufficient herds upon the sandy, impoverished ranges within their present boundaries to support themselves, he strongly recommends enlarging their reservation, so that they will not be obliged to range their untaxed herds in organized counties on the public domain, by which they could be more reasonably required to remain within their reservation boundaries, and that this would be much better for the Indians and assure more friendly relations between them and the neighboring whites than is possible under the present conditions.

The inspector states that the Navajos have vast herds of ponies which have no commercial value, some few Indians having over 500 head; that if they could be prevailed upon or induced to sell their ponies or reduce their herds it would be beneficial to them in many ways and especially in saving grass consumed by these worthless animals, and that better grazing would thus be insured for their cattle, sheep, and goats, and their interests greatly advanced otherwise.

The territory proposed to be added to the Navajo Reservation is about 40 by 50 miles in extent, containing about 1,280,000 acres of land. He endeavored to ascertain the number of Indians within this tract. The number was placed by some at 1,500; by others at 2,000 and 3,000. Mr. Elwin E. Rogers, Navajo farmer in charge of a district adjacent to this territory, estimated the number at 800. The inspector places the number at about 1,000.

He states that there are 20 Mormon families at Tuba City and vicinity who are the only white settlers in the tract of country recommended as an addition to the reservation by Maj. Constant Williams, formerly acting Indian agent of the Navajo Agency, except two Indian traders and two missionaries under the auspices of the Gospel Union, of Kansas City, Mo.; that one of these traders, Mr. C. H. Algert, is located at Tuba City, and the other, Mr. S. S. Preston, is located at Willow Springs, 10 miles west of Tuba City; that the two missionaries referred to, D. E. Brown and Fred Allen, reside at Moen Ava, about midway between Tuba City and Willow Springs, and occupy a building which they have rented from a man named Herman Lyond, the latter having left the neighborhood in May, 1898; that he visited all of said settlers and traders, who are all squatters upon unsurveyed lands; that the public surveys were, however, being made in that section of country embracing their claims; that he examined their improvements very carefully, anticipating an extension of the lands of the Navajo Reservation, and in order that the same might be facilitated he obtained from said 20 Mormons a written agreement whereby they agree to accept a certain sum for their respective improvements and to vacate their locations upon payment to them by the Government of the stipulated amounts, aggregating \$45,000; that the building of S. S. Preston, the trader at Willow Springs, is a very good one; that he would be willing to relinquish all claim to the land he occupied to the Government, free of cost, provided he would be allowed to retain his building and be licensed to continue trading with the Indians; that the other trader, Mr. Algert, located at Tuba City, had buildings valued at \$1,500 for which he would doubtless accept compensation; that the buildings occupied by the said missionaries were worth about \$1,500; that the owner thereof, Mr. Lyond, would doubtless accept that sum for his possessory rights and improvements, which the inspector regards as a reasonable valuation, and that the improvements of all the white settlers in the territory required for extending the Navajo Reservation can be purchased by the Government for \$48,000, including not only the buildings, but excellent fruit orchards and cultivated lands under irrigation.

Should the reservation be extended so as to include Tuba City and the claims of the white settlers referred to, the inspector thinks that the location at Tuba City would afford an excellent site for an industrial boarding school, and that such a school is very desirable for the Navajo, Moqui, and Piute Indians in that district. He thinks there is an abundant supply of good stone in the neighborhood suitable for use in erecting such school buildings; that there is also good clay for brick which could be made near the building site; that limestone can be had within 2 miles of Tuba City from which all lime required could be burned, and that there is also an abundant supply of good water which could be piped into the buildings.

The inspector adverts in his report to the character of the country sought to be added to the Navajo Reservation, and states that he was informed by S. S. Preston, the Indian trader at Willow Springs, James Black and E. M. Tackett, prospectors, and Ashton Nebeker and Joseph Tanner, of Tuba City, and others, all of whom are familiar with the character of the country and its resources, that grass is very scarce throughout the territory referred to, except in the western portion where water is scarce, in consequence of which a large tract of good grass can not be utilized for summer grazing; that this tract, however, affords good winter range when snow is on